of antiretrovirus drugs to make HIV/AIDs drugs more affordable to patients in the country;

(b) whether Government have any plans to expand the quantum of supply of drugs;

(c) whether Government have set up any group to finalize the expanded programme as well as the strategy for reducing the prices of drugs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) Government is contemplating expansion of the ongoing programme of care and support for people living with HIV/AIDS across the six high prevalence states, so as to include anti-retroviral drugs for specific target groups, through the public health care system. A meeting was convened on 17th November, 2003 with the pharmaceutical industry producing anti-retroviral Drugs under the chairperson-ship of Minister for Health & Family Welfare, to discuss the modalities of making available Anti-retroviral therapy to specific categories of people living with HIV, through the public health care system. As a follow-up of this meeting, a Working Group was constituted under the chairman-ship of Secretary (Health) with representatives from pharmaceutical companies, the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FICCI) and Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) to suggest ways for achieving reduction in the prices of anti-retroviral drugs and for deliberating the procurement and installation of testing/diagnostic equipment required for the treatment of the people living with HIV/AIDS.

Recognition to Medical Colleges

1275. DR. KARAN SINGH:
SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court had in its judgement passed on 23rd September, 2003 directed Government not to meddle with nor by pass the Medical Council of India in the matter of recognition of Medical Colleges or increasing the number of seats in them;

(b) if so, the details of the case, the colleges involved and the circumstances leading to such orders by the apex court; and

(c) whether Government are adopting a transparent and rational policy to accord recognition to the medical colleges?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) The Central Government in exercise of the powers vested with it under section 10A(4) of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, renewed the permission for admission of fresh batch of students for the academic session 2003-04 in the existing medical colleges as per the enclosed Statement (*see* below) after taking into account all the relevant factors including the written submissions made by the State Governments and the Institutions concerned. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in an interim order dated 23.9.2003, while observing that the Colleges might have given admissions on the basis of the permission for renewal of the increased intake capacity granted by the Government, has asked Medical Council of India to carry out further inspections in these colleges to find out whether there is compliance of all the requirements by these colleges, as per the Act and the rules, within a period of four weeks. In the meanwhile, the Central Government was directed not to grant further permissions without following the procedure prescribed under Section 10(A)(1), (2)(3) and (7) of the said Act. The response of the Government in the matter has been filed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court and the matter is presently *subjudice*.

(c) The recognition of the MBBS degree of a medical college awarded by the affiliating University under Section 11(2) of the IMC Act, 1956 is accorded only after consulting the Medical Council of India.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of the College	State	Nature of Permission
1.	Kurnool Medical College, Kurnool.	Andhra Pradesh	Renewal of permission against increased intake from 130 to 150 for the academic year 2003-04.
2.	Rangaraya Medical College, Kakinada	Andhra Pradesh	Renewal of permission against increased intake from 100 to 150 for the academic year 2003-04.

Sl.No.	Name of the College	State	Nature of Permission
3.	S.V. Medical College, Tirupati	Andhra Pradesh	Renewal of permission against increased intake from 100 to 150 for the academic year 2003-04.
4.	Kakatiya Medical College, Warangal	Andhra Pradesh	Renewal of permission against increased intake from 100 to 150 for the academic year 2003-04.
5.	Government Medical College, Anantapur	Andhra Pradesh	Renewal of permission for the admission of fresh batch of 100 MBBS Students for the academic year 2003-04.
6.	Government Medical College, Jammu	J&K	Renewal of permission against increased intake from 100 to 120 for the academic year 2003-04.
7.	Government Medical College, Aurangabad	Maharashtra	Renewal of permission against increased intake from 100 to 150 for the academic year 2003-04.
8.	Indira Gandhi Medical College, Nagpur	Maharashtra	Renewal of permission against increased intake from 60 to 100 for the academic year 2003-04.
9.	Rajendra Prasad Medical College, Tanda	Himachal Pradesh	Renewal of permission for the admission of fresh batch of 50 MBBS students for the academic year 2003-04.
10.	Sikkim Manipal University Medical College, Gangtok	Sikkim	Renewal of permission for the admission of fresh batch of 100 MBBS students for the academic year 2003-04.
11.	R.D. Gardi Medical College, Ujjain	Madhya Pradesh	Renewal of permission for the admission of fresh batch of 100 MBBS students for the academic year 2003-04.